GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:505
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
COMMITTEE ON IT
M.H. AMBAREESH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) Whether the Union Government have set up an I.T. Committee in the country;

(b) if so, the main constituents of this Committee;

(c) the responsibilities entrusted to this Committee;

(d) the main suggestions and recommendations made by this Committee on the subject so far; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Information Technology set up an Advisory Committee on January 17, 2000. Subsequently when the new Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (CIT) was formed, the Advisory Committee has been reconstituted on January 7, 2002.

(b) The committee is Chaired by Minister, CIT and has Secretary, Department of Information Technology (IT) and Secretary, Department of Telecom (DOT) as members. In addition, eminent professionals from the IT and Telecom Industry, are also members of the committee.

(c) The Advisory Committee has been entrusted with responsibility to assist the government in devising suitable strategy for making India the most preferred destination for investment in Communication and Information Technology sector, thereby accelerating socio-economic development, generating employment opportunities leading to accretion in the national wealth. The committee shall suggest following measures for achieving the above said objectives:
i) identification of specific thrust areas in emerging technologies for utilization of national resources towards building excellence in such areas through R&D efforts and human resource development;

ii) devising policy measures and action plans for building a knowledge based information society through rapid development and spread of ICT applications in the areas of e-governance, e-commerce, distance education, building up digital libraries, facilitating Tele-medicine etc;

iii) suggest measures for improving tele- density in rural areas;

iv) suggest measures for delivering end to end bandwidth in the country with special emphasis on rural & disadvantaged areas;

v) suggest measures for spreading internet connectivity & broadband connectivity to the last mile;

vi) suggest measures to induct the latest technologies in telecom sector with the special aim of bringing down prices, improving quality of services and making available quality and affordable telecommunications services, to the common man & people at large.

(c) and (d): Details of the suggestions and recommendations made by this Committee are given in the Annexure enclosed. Most of the suggestions/recommendations have been implemented and considered in Action Plans of the concerned Departments/Ministries.